MGNREGA AND ITS IMPACT ON MIGRATION AND INCOME– A CASE STUDY OF NANDAPUR GRAMPANCHAYAT

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In this chapter I shall discuss primarily the survey results which have emerged out of the study .To study MGNREGA and its impact on migration the raw data are analyzed by using statistical tabulation method. By ensuring secured livelihood, MGNREGA also mitigates the problem of seasonal or distress migration in search of source of employment and income for a large proportion of rural population. But there are two types of risks associated with working under NREGS. First, in most of the cases, the wages are paid on piece rate basis and depending on his/her performance; a worker may get even less than the minimum prevailing market wage rate.

Second, as per the provisions under the scheme, a household should get minimum 100 days of employment in a year. But, the GP fails to provide 100 days of employment to job seekers. Such limited and irregular supply of work discourages the job- seekers from working under NREGS. Regular employment opportunities also motivate many of them to migrate to other states like Gujarat, Maharashtra, Nagpur, Bangalore and Chennai.

4.1. Impact on Migration

The first objective of the study is to find out the extent to which MGNREGA has been successful in checking migration. Preventing rural to urban Migration is an important objective of this scheme since it is expected that NREGS would ultimately check migration from rural area by developing sustainable employment.

Table 4.1. Impact of MGNREGA on migration

| Village	No. of respondents Not migrating	No. of respondents Migrating	Total Number of respondents
Nandapur	7	13	20
Dolamundai	3	17	20
Bandhamundai	5	15	20
Narayanpur	7	13	20
Kunarkali Patna	14	6	20

Source-primary survey

The table 4.1 represents that the migration is still continuing even after implementation of MGNREGA. In Nandapur, 13 respondents are migrating even after implementation of MGNREGA and 7 respondents are not migrating. In Dolamundai, 17 respondents are migrating to other states after implementation of MGNREGA and 3 respondents are not migrating. In Bandhamundai, 15 respondents are migrating to other states even after implementation of MGNREGA and 5 respondents are not migrating. In Narayanpur, 13 respondents are migrating to other states even after implementation of MGNREGA and 7 respondents are not migrating to outside state. In Kunarkali Patna, 6respondents are migrating to other states and 14 respondents are not migrating even after implementation of MGNREGA.

The above table illustrates that even though people have worked under NREGS, migration continues to be high. The main reason for it is the unavailability of work during whole year as well as the fact that employment is available for a household only for 100 days. Since scheme is barely able to generate works for average 50 days it cannot check the migration. With the prevalence of large number of marginal farmers and landless labourers coupled with poor resource base and an impoverished agrarian economy, migration as an option is exercised by a large part of sample villages surveyed . At best, a small proportion of the population has deferred their migration to work for a few days under NREGS. However, informal interviews reveal that people perceive the potential of NREGS in

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reducing migration to be substantial. Some of the respondents stated that if full 100 days of employment were available in the village, they would prefer to stay in the village.

The figure 4.1 reveals mixed scenario of relationship between out-migration and implementation of NREGS in the Nandapur Gram panchayat. In all the sample surveyed household villages although people have worked under NREGS still migration is high. The major reason for his is the unavailability of work during the year. While, in Kunarkali Patna and Narayanpur migration is less as compared to other three villages. The foremost credit the respondent give for this is to NREGS. They think that at this moment they can get employment in their own region. Moreover, after the implementation of NREGS, agricultural related work has also increase in the region and also the trickle down of money earned under NREGS was given a 'push' to the rural economy.

Figure 4.1 Percentage of migration after implementation of MGNREGA
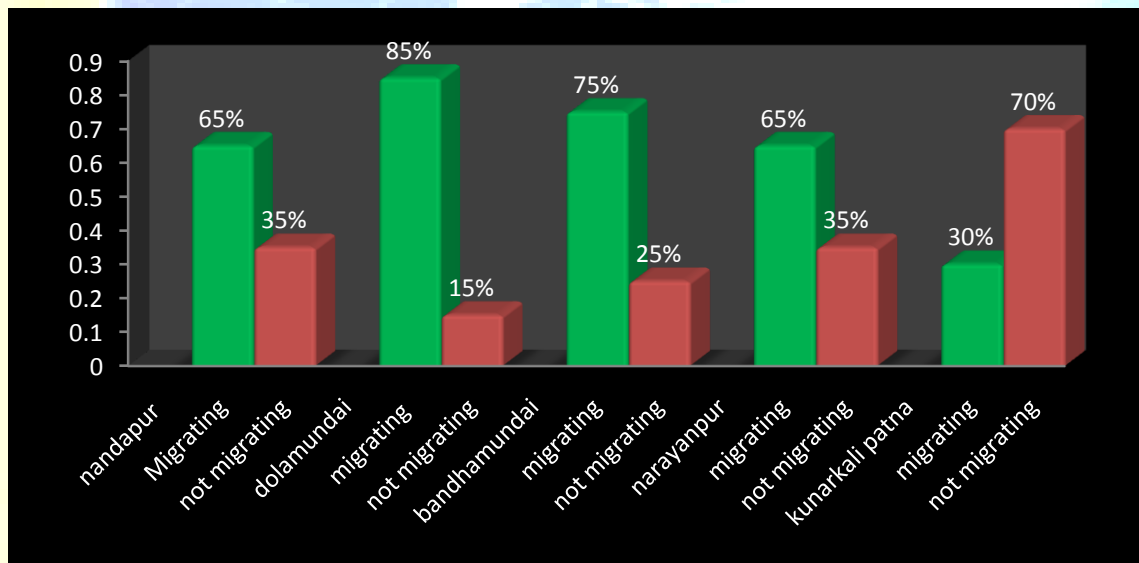
Source - primary survey

4.2. Impact on income of the respondents

The second objective of my study is to find out whether the level of income of the people has changed after implementation of MGNREGA. The Table 4.2 and 4.3 presents the percentage

of households in the selected districts, whether income has increased or not after working under NREGS. This has a direct impact on the life and standard of living.

Table 4.2 Average monthly income of the respondents before implementation of MGNREGA

Village	No. of respondents with monthly income (in Rupees)					Total no. of respondents
	1000-2000	2000-3000	3000-4000	4000-5000	5000-6000	
Nandapur	10	7	3	---	---	20
Dolamundai	8	8	4	---	---	20
Bandamundai	12	5	---	3	---	20
Narayanpur	13	6	1	---	----	20
Kunarkali patna	12	8	---	---	---	20
Total	55	34	8	3	---	100

Source-primary survey

Table 4.3 Average monthly income of the respondents after implementation of MGNREGA

Village	No. of respondents with monthly income (in Rupees)					Total no. of respondents
	1000-2000	2000-3000	3000-4000	4000-5000	5000-6000	
Nandapur	---	6	7	4	3	20
Dolamundai	---	10	5	5	---	20
Bandhamundai	----	8	9	3	---	20
Narayanpur	----	11	6	3	---	20
Kunarkali patn	----	7	7	6	---	20
Total	---	42	34	21	3	100

Source –primary survey

The respondents are divided into five categories on the basis of their monthly income. The categories are Rs 1000-2000, Rs 2000-3000, Rs 3000-4000, Rs 4000-5000 and Rs 5000-

6000. Before implementation of the scheme in the sample villages, the income of the 55 respondents was on the range of Rs 1000-2000. This was mainly due to lack of employment opportunity in that area. The table 4.2 shows that the income level of the 34 respondents was between Rs 2000-3000, 8 respondents earned a monthly income between Rs 3000-4000 and 3 respondents income was in the range of Rs 4000-5000.

Before implementation of the scheme, 55 respondents income level in the range of Rs.1000-2000 but after implementation of the scheme there is no respondents income level in the range of Rs.1000-2000. It indicates that the level of income of the respondents has increased. In the range of income level Rs 2000-3000, there were 34 respondents before the scheme and that has increased 42 respondents after implementation of the scheme. Similarly, 8 respondents income was in the range of Rs 3000-4000 but after implementation of scheme it has increased to 34 respondents income level. In the range of Rs 4000-5000, the number of respondent was 3 but after implementation of the scheme the number of respondents are 21. It indicated that the level of income of the respondents has increased after implementation of the NREGA scheme. 3 respondents income was in the range of Rs 5000-6000 after implementation of the scheme but before there was no one respondent's income in this range. So it concludes that the level of the income of the respondents has increased after implementation of the scheme.

4.3. t-Test

This test is applied to know the mean difference of the income before and after implementation of the scheme. Whether the income level has changed after implementation of the scheme. The t-test based on paired observation.

H_0: The income level of the people has not increased after implementation of MGNREGA

H_1: The income level of the people has increased after implementation of MGNREGA

As we use paired t-test and work out the test statistic 't' as under

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$$t = \frac{\overline{D}\sqrt{n}}{s}$$

$\overline{D}$ = the mean of difference

S = standard deviation of the difference.

The value of s is calculated as follows.

$$s = \frac{\sum \left(D - \overline{D}\right)^2}{n-1}$$

$$\overline{D} = \frac{\sum D}{N}$$

$$= \frac{52144}{100}$$

= 521.44

$$S_D = \sqrt{\frac{\sum \left(D - \overline{D}\right)^2}{n-1}}$$

$$= \sqrt{\frac{80560239}{99}}$$

$$= \sqrt{813739.8}$$

= 902.076

$$t = \frac{\overline{D}\sqrt{n}}{s}$$

$$= \frac{521.44\sqrt{100}}{902.076}$$

= 5.780

d. f = 100 -1 = 99   (degrees of freedom)

t $_{0.05}$ = 2.75   (table value)

The calculated value of t is greater than the table value. The null hypothesis is rejected. Hence we can conclude that the income level of the respondents has increased after implementation of the scheme.

The above discussion reveals that though MGNREGA   is a well thought - out legislation, a powerful tool in the hands of the common people to get their basic livelihood, but its poor execution deprives them from their basic rights. While the target is to guarantee 100 days of employment to each household, this GP has not achieved this target. The way in which MGNREGA should function is not happening in the study area. Job cards are not reaching the beneficiaries. The unemployment allowance for the failure to provide employment within 15 days of application as per the guidelines of MGNREGA was not fallowed. Though there is a little change in expenditure pattern of households but it fails to stop the flow of distress rural - urban migration, restricting child labour, alleviating poverty, and making village self - sustaining through productive assets creation as only incomplete road works being taken here. Therefore, a well thought out effort is necessary to address these problems of MGNREGA in this Gram Panchayat. To make the Act more effective for securing the desired objectives of rural poverty eradication and livelihood security, there is an urgent need to ensure citizen participation in all stages of the implementation process. A proper mechanism should be developed to check the corruption in distribution of job cards, assured timely payment of actual wage and substantial asset creation.

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